

**Trinity Presbyterian Church**  
**March 12, 2023 A.D.**  
**The Third Sunday in Lent**  
**Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson - Pastor**

Gathering Music  
Welcome & Announcements  
Prelude

Call to worship

L: Prepare your minds for contemplation, discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace Jesus Christ will bring you.

***P: As He who called you is Holy, be Holy yourselves in all your conduct.***

L: For it is written, "You shall be Holy, for I am Holy."

***P: Trust in the God who raised Him and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.***

***Amen.***

Call to Confession

L: The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus who came into the world to save sinners. Therefore, let us confess our sins before him on this day.

In Unison: ***We seek you on the mountaintop, O God, for we fear to face the city. We would rather be dazzled by your splendor on some Sinai than obey your commands in our digital wilderness. We find it easier to worship the wonder-working Jesus than to follow Christ, who was obedient unto death. Merciful God, forgive our shallow ways. Help us to find you wherever you choose to send us in this world of yours today. Amen.***

**Pastor:** “Since then we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession . . . Let us, therefore, approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need, knowing that forgiveness is only to be found in you. Amen

\*Our Response      ***What a Friend We have in Jesus***

***What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what  
peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because  
we do not carry everything to God in prayer!***

Sharing Our Faith with Our Children

\*Hymn - ***Just as I Am, Without One Plea #370***

The Morning Scripture Lessons:    John 15:1-11

## **The Vine and the Branches**

**15** “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup>He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes<sup>[a]</sup> so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup>You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup>“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

<sup>9</sup> “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

**Luke 10:38-42**

**At the Home of Martha and Mary**

<sup>38</sup> As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said. <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”

<sup>41</sup> “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—or indeed only one.<sup>[a]</sup> Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”

Sermon: ***To Abide in Him and Your Circle of Friends***

\*Hymn - ***Lord, I Want to Be a Christian #372***

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology (Hymn #592)

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

\*Sending forth and Benediction

\*Choral response

***God be with You Till We Meet Again***

***God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide, uphold you, with His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again. Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet; till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.***

Postlude

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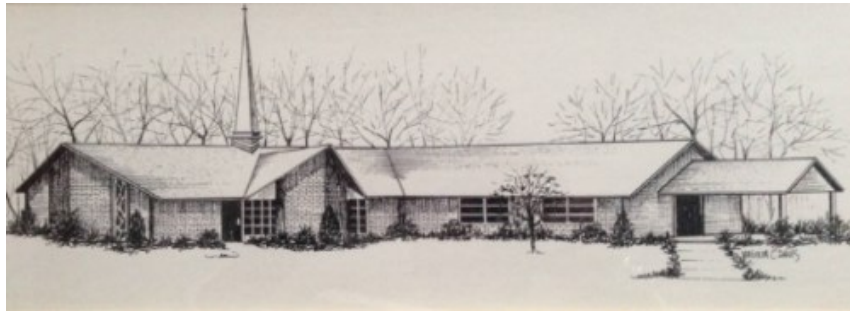
Liturgist: Josh Coy

Head Deacons: Megan Davis & Kathy Stevens

Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson

Music Director: Pamela Carroll

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